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NASHVILLE—Tennessee's unemployment rate for April increased to 4.3 percent, up two-tenths of a percentage point over last month, reported Commissioner Michael E. Magill of the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development.

"Tennessee's economy is still growing, but at a slower rate," Magill stated. "New jobs continue to be created throughout the state."

According to Magill, Tennessee's rate remains below the national average of 4.5 percent. At this time last year, the state rate registered 3.9 percent, while the U.S. rate was at 4.0 percent.

The non-farm job picture showed only slight movement over the month, with

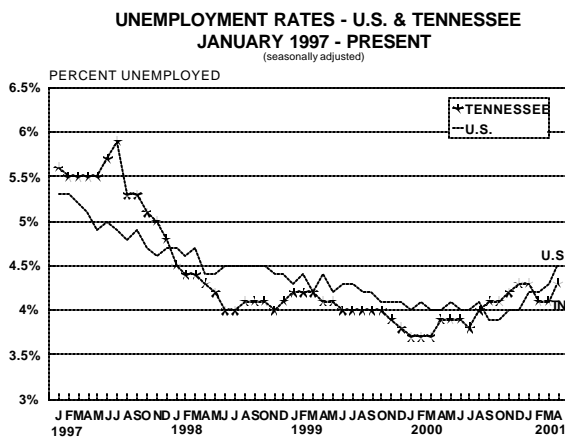
seasonal increases in tourism and spring retail purchases reflected in the figures.

Employment was up in services by 9,500 jobs, with amusement and recreation adding 3,100 jobs. Retail trade grew by 5,700 jobs with seasonal growth taking place in eating and drinking places; transportation added 2,700, and construction increased by 2,400.

Manufacturing employment declined by 1,600 jobs, mainly in electronic and other electric equipment. Local education lost 700 jobs, while state education lost 300 due to the decrease in student workers.

From April 2000 to April 2001, Tennessee added 31,500 jobs for a 1.2 percent increase. Services were up by 21,400, trade added 13,200 jobs, and transportation/communications/utilities added 5,300 with most of the growth in transportation.

Employment declined in durable goods manufacturing by 11,900, while non-durable goods manufacturing was down by 5,200, primarily due to continued declines in apparel, textiles and rubber and miscellaneous plastics. Food stores (retail trade) lost 1,700.



LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES SUMMARY - TENNESSEE

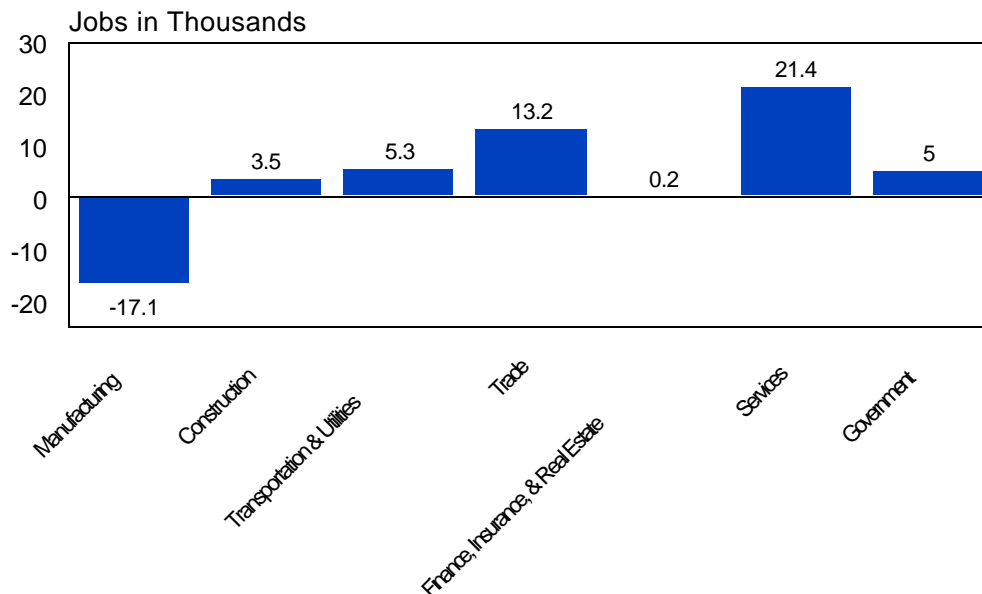
April 2001 (preliminary) - BM 2000

Seasonally Adjusted	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate		Rate Change
				Apr.	Mar.	
UNITED STATES	141,756,000	135,354,000	6,402,000	4.5 %	4.3 %	0.2 %
TENNESSEE	2,872,100	2,749,500	122,600	4.3	4.1	0.2

Not Seasonally Adjusted						
UNITED STATES	141,073,000	135,122,000	5,951,000	4.2 %	4.6 %	-0.4 %
TENNESSEE	2,839,200	2,728,200	111,000	3.9	4.2	-0.3

OVER THE YEAR JOB GROWTH

By Major Industry (April 2000-2001)



County and MSA rates will be released on Thursday, May 24, 2001.

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NOTE: Information will be available on the Internet; enter "http://www.state.tn.us/labor-wfd/labor_figures." Sound may be obtained from the Governor's NewsLine at 1-800-342-1483 or Nashville area 741-4877.

NOTE: Tennessee's employment and unemployment statistics are based on two major surveys. The Current Population Survey (CPS) is a survey by place of residence providing estimates on the number of people in the labor force, total employment, unemployment, and the unemployment rate. Beginning in January 1992, the CPS data are seasonally adjusted for all states as directed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The business survey collects data by place of work and creates information about jobs in various industries. The business survey data are non-seasonally adjusted at this time.

The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development is an equal opportunity employer. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

El Departamento del Trabajo y de la Fuerza Laboral es un organismo empresarial que aplica la igualdad de oportunidades. Los Servicios y ayudas auxiliares están disponibles para los individuos con impedimentos si los solicitan.